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Implementation of the recommendations of the Third United Nations Conference on the Exploration and Peaceful Uses of Outer Space (UNISPACE III)

Implementation of the recommendations of the Third United Nations Conference on the Exploration and Peaceful Uses of Outer Space (UNISPACE III): Contributions to the Trust Fund for the United Nations Programme on Space Applications

Note by the Secretariat

I. Introduction

1. In accordance with General Assembly resolution 54/68 of 6 December 1999, the terms of reference of the Trust Fund for the United Nations Programme on Space Applications, established pursuant to General Assembly resolution 37/90 of 10 December 1982, were modified to include the implementation of the recommendations of the Third United Nations Conference on the Exploration and Peaceful Uses of Outer Space (UNISPACE III). As requested by the Assembly in resolution 54/68, the Secretary-General invited all States, in a note verbale dated 26 July 2000, to contribute voluntarily to the Trust Fund, and included in his invitation the following list of priority projects and activities as recommended by the Committee on the Peaceful Uses of Outer Space at its forty-third session:[1]

(a) Support of operational activities of the regional centres for space science and technology education, affiliated to the United Nations, and the Network of Space Science and Technology Education and Research Institutions for Central, Eastern and South-Eastern Europe;

* A/AC.105/L.232.

V.01-82491 (E)

(b) Development of disaster-specific modules and implementation of pilot projects in developing countries to introduce the use of space technologies in disaster management;

(c) Provision of satellite data and hardware and software to user institutions in developing countries to initiate or strengthen pilot projects that use Earth observation data for protecting the environment and management of natural resources;

(d) Development and implementation of a training module on the use of satellite communications for distance education, telemedicine and telehealth applications;

(e) Organization of outreach activities for young people and for the general public.

2. The present document was prepared pursuant to General Assembly resolution 54/68, paragraph 9, in which the Assembly requested the Office for Outer Space Affairs to provide the Committee on the Peaceful Uses of Outer Space with a report listing those States that have responded to the invitation by the Secretary-General.

II. Contributions to the Trust Fund for the United Nations Programme on Space Applications

3. The list of States and organizations that have contributed to the Trust Fund following the invitation by the Secretary-General is provided in table 1 below. Table 2 contains the list of States and organizations that have notified the Office for Outer Space Affairs of their intention to contribute to the Trust Fund. The information contained in tables 1 and 2 reflects the status of contributions and pledges received as of 31 March 2001.

4. In addition to cash contributions as indicated in tables 1 and 2, a number of Member States and governmental and non-governmental organizations provided support for the activities of the United Nations Programme on Space Applications by defraying the costs of local organization and facilities and the international air travel, room and board and local transportation of participants, as well as by sponsoring the participation of experts making technical presentations and taking part in the deliberations of the workshops and seminars.

Table 1

Contributions made to the Trust Fund for the United Nations Programme on Space Applications

Country/organization	*Amount received (United States dollars)*	*Purpose of the contribution*
Czech Republic	3 000	To support the activities of the United Nations Programme on Space Applications
Centre national d'études spatiales (French National Centre for Space Studies)	7 006[a]	To support the organization of the United Nations/International Astronautical Federation Workshop on an Operational Strategy for Sustainable Development using Space (held in São José dos Campos, Brazil, from 28 to 30 September 2000)
European Space Agency	50 000	To support the organization of some of the six workshops, expert meetings and symposia to be held in 2001

[a] The contribution amounted to 50 000 French francs when it was received.

Table 2

Pledges made for contributions to the Trust Fund for the United Nations Programme on Space Applications

Country/organization	*Amount pledged (United States dollars)*	*Purpose of the contribution*
United States of America	500 000	To support the organization of five workshops on the use of global navigation satellite systems in 2001 and 2002
European Space Agency	60 000	To support the organization of the remaining part of the six workshops, expert meetings and symposia to be held in 2001
United Nations Foundation[a]	25 000	To support activities of the United Nations Programme on Space Applications (discussions are under way to identify specific activities to be funded)

[a] The amount to be received was originally contributed by the Dobbins Foundation (United States of America).

Notes

[1] *Official Records of the General Assembly, Fifty-fifth Session, Supplement No. 20* (A/55/20), paragraph 87.